

# Common Core Standards & Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers

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Remedial Education Commission  
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# Louisiana Content Standards

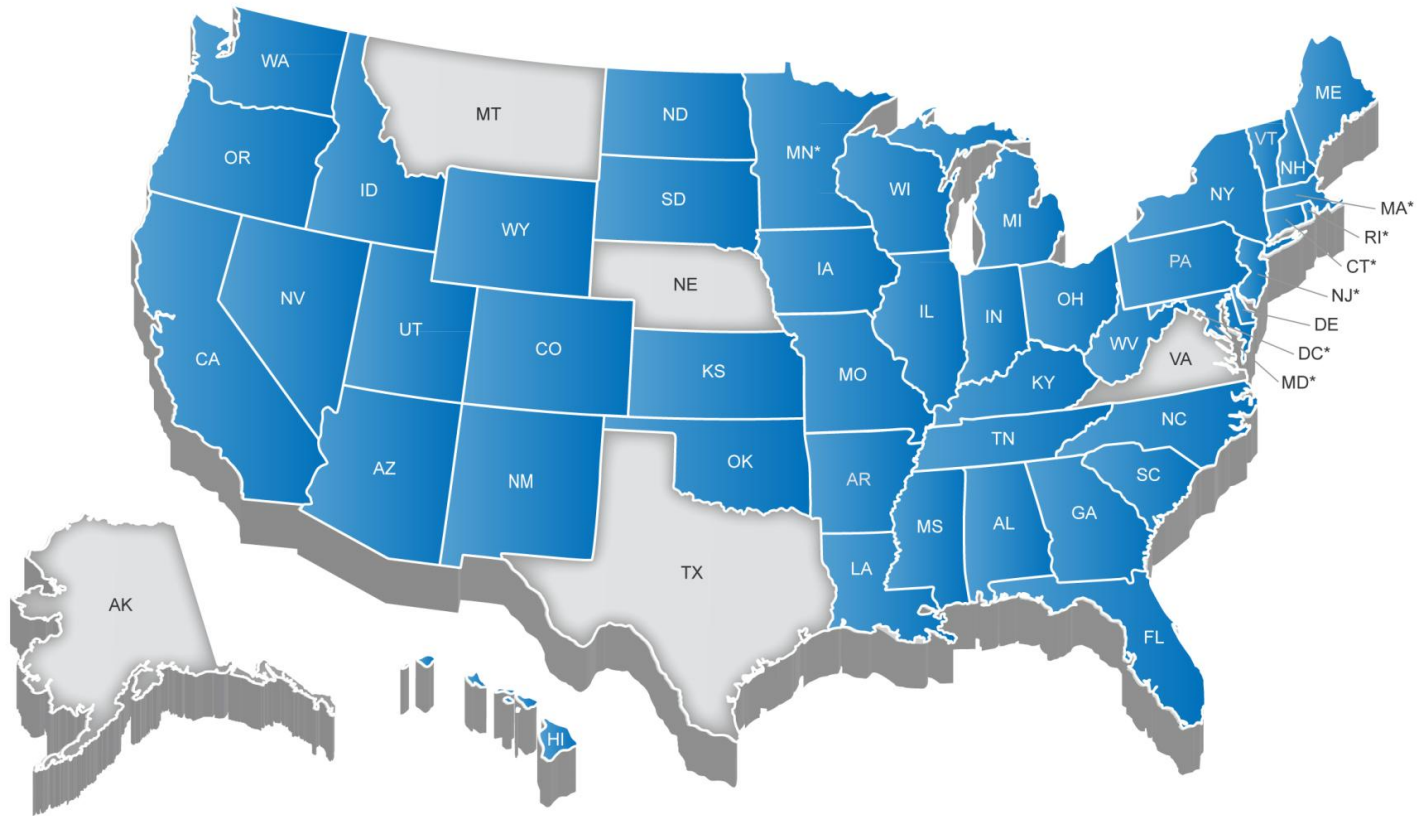
- Current state education policy requires regular review and revision to Louisiana content standards “to maintain rigor and high expectations for teaching and learning”
- Must be reviewed at least once every seven years (BESE Bulletin 741, 2301 C)
- Approved by Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE)
  - 1997-1998: Standards and Benchmarks
  - 2004: Grade-Level Expectations (GLEs)
  - 2010: Common Core State Standards (CCSS) for English language arts (ELA) and mathematics

# Common Core Standards Initiative Mission

- Provide a **consistent, clear** understanding of what students are expected to learn, so teachers and parents know what they need to do to help them.
- Designed to be robust and **relevant to the real world**, reflecting the knowledge and skills that our young people need for success in college and careers.
- With American students fully prepared for the future, our communities will be best positioned to **compete successfully** in the global economy.

*Source: The National Governors Association Center for Best Practices (NGA Center) and the Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO)*

# 45 States + DC Have Adopted the Common Core State Standards



**\*Minnesota adopted the CCSS in ELA/literacy only**

# Key Advances of the Common Core

## MATHEMATICS

**Focus, coherence and clarity:**  
emphasis on key topics at each grade level and coherent progression across grades

**Procedural fluency and understanding**  
of concepts and skills

**Promote rigor through mathematical**  
proficiencies that foster reasoning  
and understanding across discipline

**High school standards organized by**  
conceptual categories

## ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS/LITERACY

**Balance of literature and**  
informational texts; focus on text  
complexity

**Emphasis on argument, informative/**  
explanatory writing, and research

**Speaking and listening skills**

**Literacy standards for history,**  
science and technical subjects

**ANCHORED IN COLLEGE AND CAREER READINESS**

## CCSS: Key Ideas

# English Language Arts

- Anchored in College and Career Readiness (CCR) standards
  - Indicate knowledge and skills a high school graduate must have to be college and career ready
  - “College” includes technical college, community college, four-year college or university
- K-12 standards are grade-level steps to attain CCR standards in
  - Reading (foundational skills, literature, informational texts)
  - Writing
  - Speaking and Listening<sup>1</sup>
  - Language

<sup>1</sup> More focus will be needed on Speaking and Listening (not on current LA assessments, but will be part of common assessments)

# CCSS: Key Ideas

## English Language Arts

- Address literacy in History/Social Studies, Science, and Technical Subjects requiring shared responsibility across the school building for students' literacy learning
  - Explain how a simple machine works (science)
  - Compare/contrast world events (social studies)
  - Justify a solution to a problem (mathematics)
  - Focus on teaching academic vocabulary in all subjects
- Require students to read and understand more challenging texts than currently required
- Emphasize the use of materials to be read *for information*

# CCSS: Grade-Level Focus Areas Mathematics

- Kindergarten – Grade 5
  - Establishes foundation of using and understanding whole numbers, fractions, and decimals
- Grades 6-8
  - Preparation for geometry, algebra, and probability and statistics
- High School
  - Emphasis on applying math to solve problems arising in every day life, society, and the workplace



# CCSS: Examples of Area Activities Mathematics

Current Curriculum Activity	Activity Modified to meet CCSS
<p>Students in Grade 3 are asked to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• find the perimeter and area of rectangular garden plots</li><li>• use grid paper to draw the shapes</li><li>• determine unit lengths and the area of each garden by counting squares</li></ul>	<p>Students in Grade 3 will</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• connect a rectangle's area to multiplication of its side lengths</li><li>• use areas of rectangles to solve real-world problems</li><li>• find the areas of irregular shapes by subdividing into rectangles</li><li>• explain their methods of solving and justify their conclusions</li></ul>

# Standards for Science and Social Studies

- Literacy standards for science, social studies, and technical subjects are included in CCSS for ELA
- Science Content Standards
  - *Next Generation Science Standards* currently under development by national groups
  - Expected release in Spring 2012
  - Will be reviewed for appropriateness to replace current Louisiana science standards; if acceptable, will be adopted in Summer or Fall 2012 to be implemented in 2014-15
- Social Studies Content Standards
  - Revised by committees of state educators in 2010-11
  - To be considered by BESE for approval in June 2011
  - To be implemented in 2014-15

# What's Next? Common Assessments

- **Common Core State Standards** are critical, but just the first step
- **Common assessments** aligned to the Common Core will help ensure the new standards truly reach every classroom

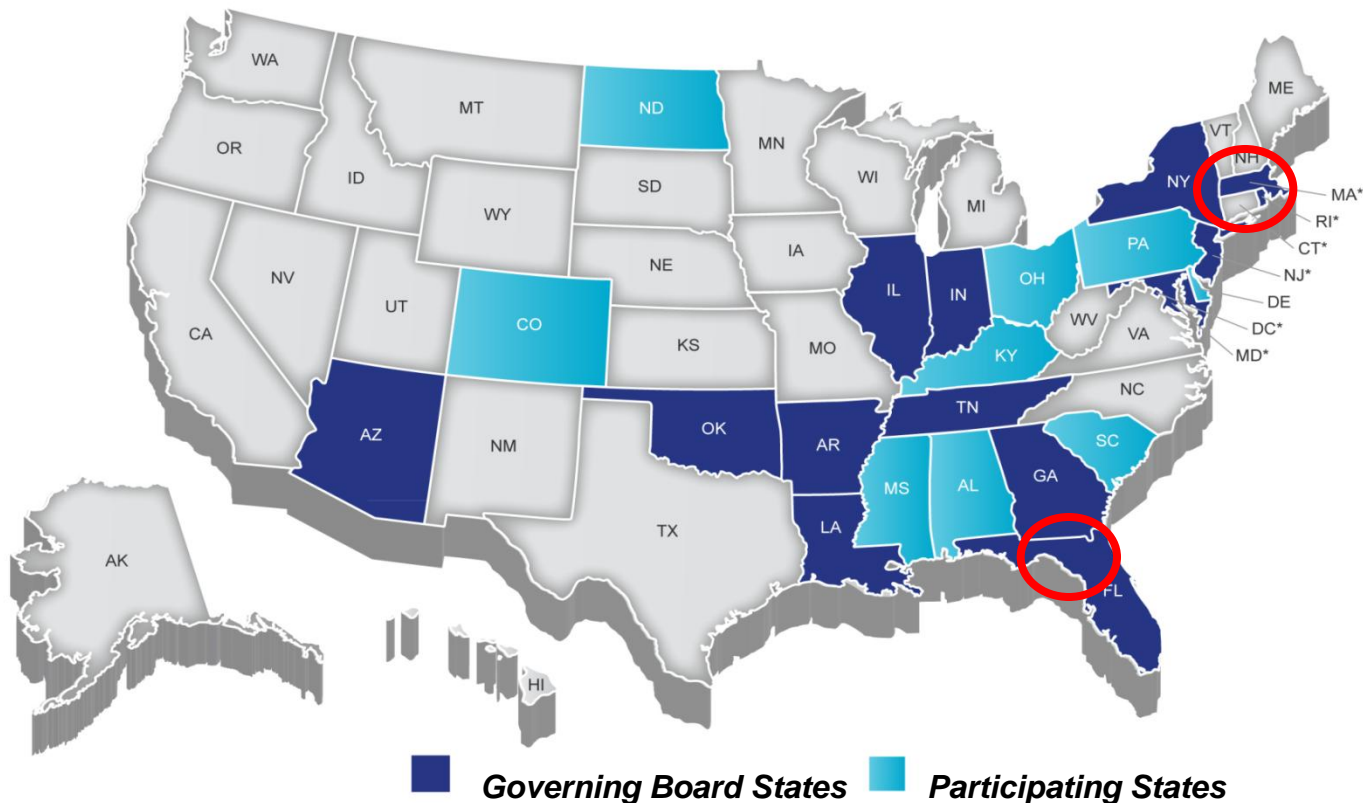
# Race to the Top: Assessment Program Competition

- \$350 million of Race to the Top Fund set aside for awards to consortia of states to design and develop common K-12 assessment systems aligned to common, college- and career-ready standards
- The competition asked consortia to design assessment systems that meet the dual needs of *accountability* and *instructional improvement*

# Race to the Top: Assessment Program Competition (Cont'd.)

- In September 2010, the U.S. Department of Education awarded grants to:
  - Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC)
  - Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium (SBAC)
- The winning consortia have four years to develop assessments systems, and states participating in either consortium will administer new assessments statewide by 2014-2015

# Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC)



# PARCC 17 Governing Board States

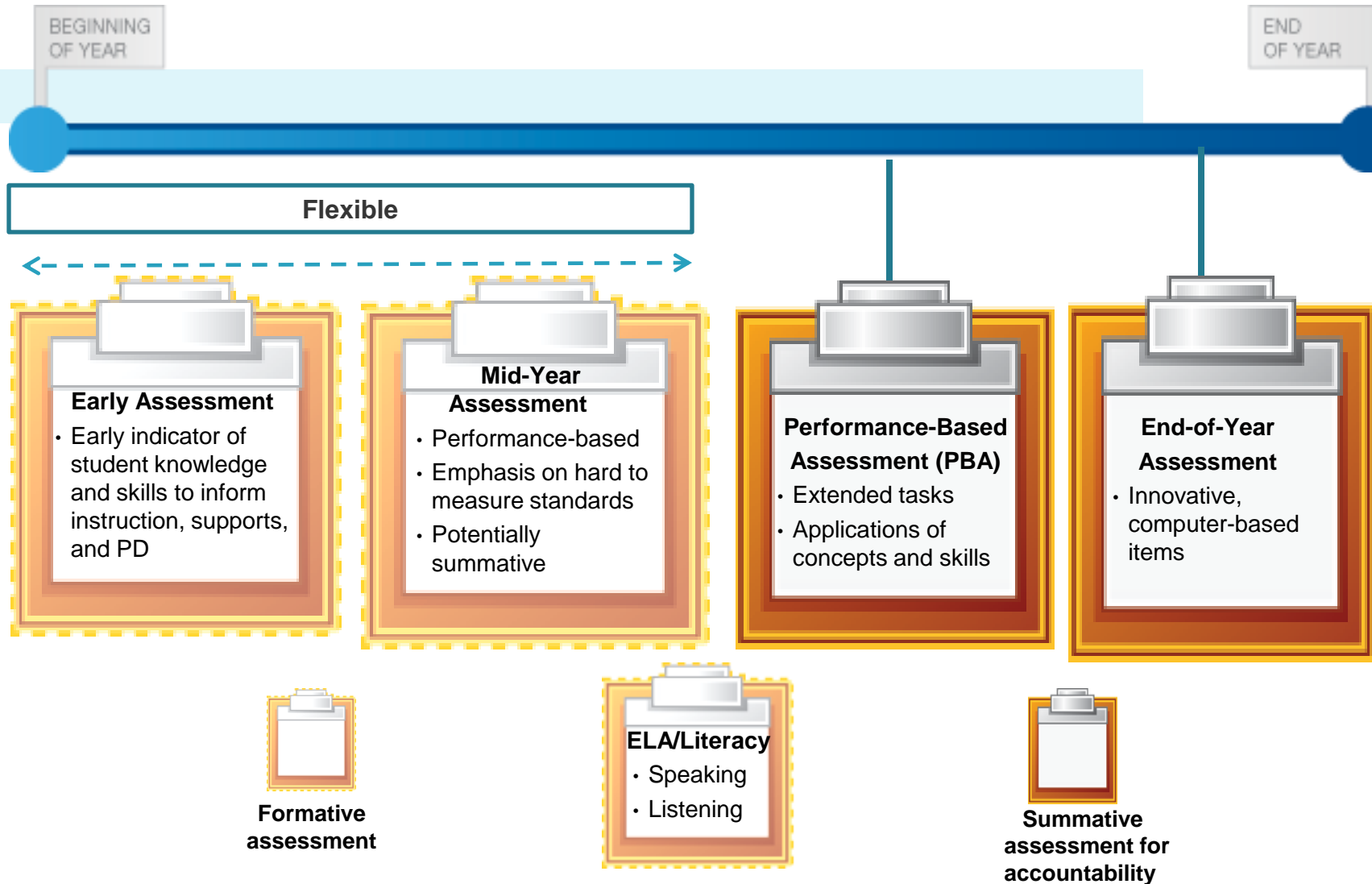
- Arizona
  - Arkansas
  - District of Columbia
  - Florida (*Fiscal Agent*)
  - Georgia
  - Illinois
  - Indiana
  - Louisiana
  - Maryland
  - Massachusetts (*Board Chair*)
  - Mississippi
  - New Jersey
  - New Mexico
  - New York
  - Oklahoma
  - Rhode Island
  - Tennessee
- Governing States will pilot and field test the assessment system components during the 2011–12, 2012–13 and 2013–14 school years, and administer the new assessment system during the 2014-15 school year
  - Governing States will use the results from the PARCC assessments in their state accountability systems
  - The chief state school officers of the Governing States serve on the PARCC Governing Board and make decisions on behalf of the Partnership on major policies and operational procedures

# PARCC 8 Participating States

- Alabama
  - Colorado
  - Delaware
  - Kentucky
  - North Dakota
  - Ohio
  - Pennsylvania
  - South Carolina
- Participating States provide staff to serve on PARCC's design committees, working groups, and other task forces established by the Governing Board to conduct the work necessary to design and develop PARCC's proposed assessment system
  - By 2014–15, any state that remains in PARCC must commit to statewide implementation and administration of the Partnership's assessment system
  - Any PARCC Participating State prepared to make the commitments and take on the responsibilities of a Governing State can become one



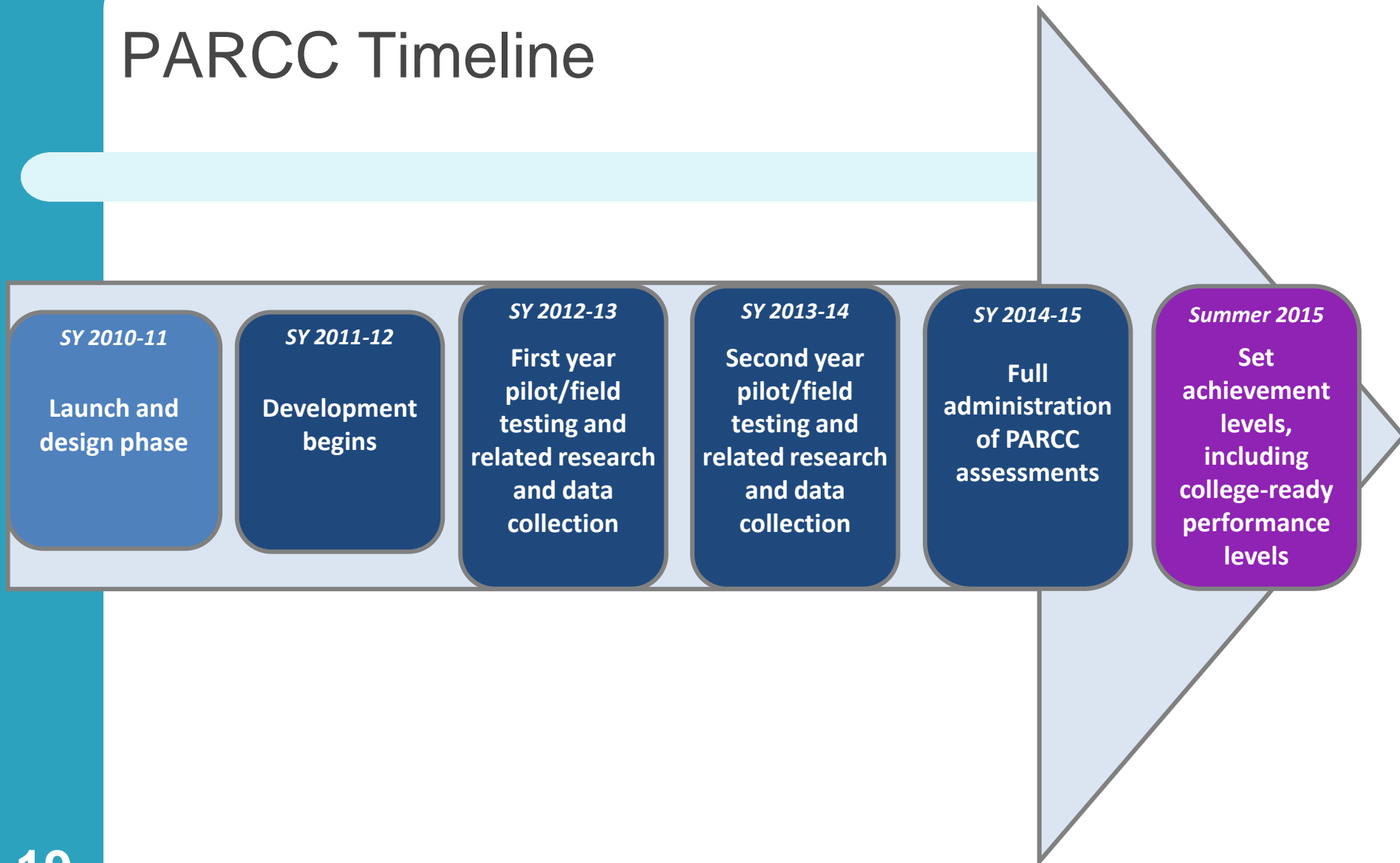
# High-Quality PARCC Assessments



# High School Assessments

- English
    - English I
    - English II
    - English III
  - Mathematics
    - Algebra I
    - Geometry
    - Algebra II
- OR
- Integrative Math I, II, and III

# PARCC Timeline



# PARCC's Key Stakeholders

## **Teachers, School Leaders, District Administrators, and State Officials**

- Stakeholders will regularly and quickly have a wider variety of useful performance data

## **Parents, Students, and the Public**

- PARCC's assessments will, for the first time, give information about student performance relative to children in other states and against achievement standards anchored in college- and career-ready knowledge and skills

## **Higher Education**

- Assessments will identify whether students are ready for and prepared to succeed in entry-level, credit-bearing postsecondary courses by the time they graduate from high school

# Build a Pathway to College and Career Readiness for All Students

K-2 formative assessment being developed, aligned to the PARCC system

Timely student achievement data showing students, parents and educators whether ALL students are on-track to college and career readiness

College readiness score to identify who is ready for college-level coursework

Targeted interventions & supports:  
• 12<sup>th</sup>-grade bridge courses  
• PD for educators

K-2

3-8

High School

SUCCESS IN FIRST-YEAR, CREDIT-BEARING, POSTSECONDARY COURSEWORK

← ONGOING STUDENT SUPPORTS/INTERVENTIONS →

## Common Standards and Assessments: Benefits to K-12 & Higher Education

- **Clear pathway** and **better information** about the preparation of incoming students
- **Improved preparation** of incoming students – from all states
- Better **options for academic interventions** to ensure students remain on-track to college readiness
- **Reduced remediation** rates
- **Increased academic rigor** in entry-level, credit-bearing college courses
- **Increased degree** attainment rates
- Clear **guidance for teachers and preparation programs** regarding content and skills for teacher at each grade

## College Readiness Performance Standard (Cut-off Score): Placement NOT Admission

- **Placement** into “General Education types” of English (101) and College Algebra
- Serve as an **additional** college/university test to place students in entry-level credit-bearing English and College Algebra courses – **this does not replace existing placement tests**
- **Not** intended to determine **admission** to college or university
- Does not address **non-traditional** students who delay enrollment

# PARCC States' College-Ready Scores

		ACT	SAT	PARCC STATES ACT			PARCC STATES SAT		
				Low	High	Median	Low	High	Median
CRITICAL READING (SAT)/ ENGLISH (ACT)		18	500 (50%)	17	21	19	400	600	450/500
MATH (SAT)/ COLLEGE ALGEBRA (ACT)		22	500 (54%)	16	22	19	400	600	460/500

**Source:** SAT: The College Board, Wayne Camara, Vice President Research and Development. 65% probability FTF earn 2.7 (B-) or higher.

ACT: Issues in College Readiness, 2010. 50% probability of B or better; 75%, C or better.

PARCC: PARCC State responses to Remediation Policies, HE 01-11, January 6, 2011



# Research to Help Set College Ready Performance Standards

- To set college-ready performance standards on the high school assessments, PARCC will use evidence from research such as:
  - Judgment studies by postsecondary faculty
  - Concurrent validity studies
  - Predictive validity studies
  - Alignment studies
- College-ready performance standards will not be set until after the tests have been administered in 2014-15

# New Challenges

- **Identifying a set of core competencies** in English and mathematics reflected in the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) that signal that a student is on-track to be college-ready
- **Agreeing on college-readiness standards** acceptable to all college and universities within and across states
- **Helping students** use their junior and senior years more effectively to prepare academically for college through better interventions
- **Helping students** who demonstrate early college readiness enroll in post-secondary courses while attending high school
- **Helping teachers**, pre-service and in-service, prepare to teach to the new standards and assessments
- **Connecting the current initiatives** in states regarding college preparation, access, and completion
- **Communicating clear placement standards** to high school teachers and students

# Networks to Address Challenges

- National:
  - ✓ ➤ Higher Education Advisory Committee
  - ✓ ➤ PARCC Implementation Team
  - PARCC Educator Leader Cadre (*Fall 2011*)
- Louisiana:
  - ✓ ➤ PARCC State Planning Team
  - ✓ ➤ PARCC Leadership Summit (for University Chancellors/Presidents & Key Leaders)
  - ✓ ➤ PARCC Campus Leadership Teams
  - ✓ ➤ LDOE Webinars and Training
  - Commissions (e.g., Blue Ribbon Commission)

# PARCC CAMPUS LEADERSHIP TEAMS (2011-2014)

- 8-Member team on each university campus
- Webinar (July 2011), Statewide Meeting (September 30, 2011), & Other Meetings During 2011-2014
- **Challenges** to address:
  - Identifying a set of core competencies in English and mathematics reflected in the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) that signal that a student is on-track to be college-ready
  - Agreeing on college-readiness standards acceptable to all college and universities within Louisiana
  - Helping pre-service teachers prepare to teach to the new Common Core Standards and assessments
  - Identifying types of drill down data needed for new PARCC assessments to help teachers and teacher preparation programs improve practices

# Blue Ribbon Commission for Educational Excellence (2011-12)

- **Charge:** To prepare students who are career and college ready as new Common Core State Standards and PARCC assessments are implemented in Louisiana
- **Challenges** to address:
  - Help new and experienced teachers implement effective practices to teach to the new standards and assessments
  - Help students use their junior and senior years more effectively to prepare academically for college through better interventions
  - Help students who demonstrate early college readiness to enroll in post-secondary courses while in high school

# Other Challenges

Other challenges to address:

- **Connecting the current initiatives** in states regarding college preparation, access, and completion
- **Communicating clear placement standards** to high school teachers and students

# Louisiana Dept. of Education Implementation Overview

New curriculum and assessments will be phased in over several years in Louisiana.

No changes --  
current curriculum  
and assessments

Curriculum - some  
GLEs deleted,  
some GLEs  
remain, some  
CCSS added

Assessments –  
based on GLEs  
that **remain** in  
curriculum

Curriculum and  
assessments  
based on CCSS

	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
PreK	Current	Current	New	New
K	Current	New	New	New
Grade 1	Current	New	New	New
Grade 2	Current	Transitional	New	New
Grades 3-8	Current	Transitional	Transitional	New
High School	Current	Transitional	Transitional	New

## Questions & Additional Information

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